

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
Office of the Secretary
Washington, D.C. 20350

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CH-1-CH-5 ENTERED
SECNAVINST 10520.2 D
OP-09B
29 January 1974

SECNAV INSTRUCTION 10520.2 D

From: Secretary of the Navy
To: All Ships and Stations (less Marine Corps field addressees not having Navy personnel attached)
Subj: United States Navy Flag, Battle Streamers, and U.S. Navy Infantry Battalion Flag; procurement and use of
Ref: (a) Executive Order 10812 of 24 Apr 1959 (NOTAL)
(b) Report of the 1967 National Naval Reserve Policy Board (NOTAL)
(c) DNC 27A, Flags, Pennants and Customs
(d) SECNAVINST 1650.1D (Navy & Marine Corps Awards Manual) of 17 Dec 1968
Encl: (1) Battle Streamers and Accessories; background, eligibility, display, and procurement

1. Purpose. The purpose of this instruction is to provide information concerning procurement and use of the U.S. Navy Flag, Battle Streamers, and the U.S. Navy Infantry Battalion Flag.

2. Cancellation. SECNAV Instruction 10520.2C is canceled.

3. Background

a. Reference (a) approved the U.S. Navy Flag and specified the design, coloration, and size. The U.S. Navy Flag fulfills the requirement for an official flag to represent the U.S. Navy on a wide variety of ceremonial, parade, and display occasions. To further recognize and honor the sacrifices of our predecessors, Battle Streamers have been authorized for display on the flag-staff bearing the Navy Flag. Enclosure (1) contains information concerning background, procurement, use, and display of Battle Streamers and streamer accessories.

b. By his approval of reference (b), the Secretary of the Navy approved designation of the U.S. Navy Flag as the official flag for use by Navy Reserve

activities, in furtherance of the One-Navy concept; and further approved the designation of the U.S. Navy Infantry Battalion Flag, displaying unit name and location, as organizational colors for individual reserve units.

4. Policy

a. Use of the U.S. Navy Flag

(1) The U.S. Navy Flag shall be used to represent the Navy at:

- (a) Official ceremonies
- (b) Parades
- (c) Official Navy Displays
- (d) Public gatherings in which the Navy is an official participant
- (e) Other occasions when specifically authorized by the Secretary of the Navy

(2) When used for the purpose listed in subparagraph 4a(1) above, the U.S. Navy Flag will accompany, and take the place of honor next after, the National Ensign—except that when other branches of the armed forces are also participating, the service flags will take among themselves the precedence of the services which they represent.

(3) The U.S. Navy Flag shall not be used for outdoor fixed display purposes.

(4) The U.S. Navy Flag and Battle Streamers are for official Navy use only and shall not be made available to civilian groups, organizations, or individuals, except as provided for in subparagraph 5b.

b. Use of the U.S. Navy Infantry Battalion Flag

(1) The U.S. Navy Infantry Battalion Flag shall be used only as organization colors for ships' landing party battalions, for battalion organizations

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of Navy shore activities, and for inactive Naval Reserve units.

When participating independently in operations, ceremonies, or parades, battalions or units may carry their own organization colors. Navy and Naval Reserve units which use the U.S. Navy Infantry Battalion Flag as organization colors may show thereon the name and location of the battalion, as authorized by reference (c).

5. Action

a. Navy and Naval Reserve activities or individual reserve units which require the U.S. Navy Flag or the U.S. Navy Infantry Battalion Flag for official use may obtain it by submitting requisitions through normal supply channels.

R) b. Upon relief of officials listed below, the U.S. Navy Flag with Battle Streamers and/or Marine Corps

Colors with Battle Streamers will be provided, as follows:

- (1) Secretary of the Navy
U.S. Navy Flag with Battle Streamers
Marine Corps Colors with Battle Streamers
- (2) Chief of Naval Operations
U.S. Navy Flag with Battle Streamers
- (3) Commandant of the Marine Corps
Marine Corps Colors with Battle Streamers

Should they donate their flag and streamers to other activities, an appropriate dedication plaque or plate will be provided with the flag and streamers. A parchment certificate bearing facsimile of the Navy Flag or Marine Corps Colors with Battle Streamers will be presented to the donor.

c. Addressees are requested to promulgate the contents of this instruction to all hands through posting or otherwise, as appropriate.

JOHN W. WARNER
Secretary of the Navy

Distribution:
SNDL Parts 1 and 2

Stocked:
CO, NAVPUBFORMCEN
5801 Tabor Ave.
Phila., PA 19120

BATTLE STREAMERS

I. BACKGROUND

To date, 27 streamers with 24 silver stars and 33 bronze stars to commemorate the wars and combat actions of our Navy during its proud history have been approved. These symbolize 157 campaigns and major battles and the many unit citations and commendations which have been approved. Silver and bronze stars are used on streamers to denote engagements of a campaign and numerals on unit award Streamers to denote total number approved.

II. HISTORY

The significance of the Battle Streamers on the U.S. Navy Flag is as follows:

1. Revolutionary War (1 silver star, 3 bronze stars). The war at sea was critical in the Nation's struggle for independence. Operations in European waters, including the historic Bon Homme Richard-Serapis battle, carried the war home to Britain. Cargoes from captured enemy merchant ships, and convoy escorts brought vitally needed supplies to Washington's Army, and kept the flame of resistance burning.

2. Quasi-War with France (3 bronze stars). Depredations by the privateers of Revolutionary France against the expanding but unprotected merchant shipping of the young American republic led to this conflict fought entirely at sea. Here the new U.S. Navy, under the Constitution, received its baptism by fire. Captain Thomas Truxtun in the Constellation won two memorable victories against the French naval frigates L'Insurgente and La Vengeance. Marauding privateers were relentlessly hunted until an honorable settlement was assured.

3. Barbary Wars (4 bronze stars). The Barbary states of North Africa rimming the Mediterranean had practiced piracy for centuries. American ships were seized, and crews sold into slavery. To crush this intolerable practice, small U.S. naval squadrons were sent to the Mediterranean. Under such outstanding leaders as Commodore Edward Preble, the U.S. Navy humbled the proud rulers of Barbary and won universal respect for the flag of the new nation. Stephen Decatur's heroic exploit to destroy the frigate Philadelphia, which had been captured by the Tripolitans, created a noble tradition of courage.

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4. War of 1812 (2 silver stars, 4 bronze stars). In this, the United States' "second war for independence" against Great Britain, the U.S. Navy won stunning victories in fierce ship-to-ship action. The most celebrated of these frigate duels was the defeat of HMS Guerriere by the Constitution ("Old Ironsides"). Fleet victories by Commodore Oliver Hazard Perry on Lake Erie, and Commodore Thomas Macdonough on Lake Champlain saved the nation from invasion from Canada. At New Orleans, the support given Andrew Jackson by the small naval squadron of Commodore Daniel Patterson helped gain a great triumph and turn back another serious invasion threat.

5. The Indian Wars. Following the massacre in 1835 of an Army detachment in Florida by Seminole Indians, the U.S. Navy joined with the Marine Corps in action against the Seminole and Creek tribes. Naval reinforcements were stationed along the Florida coast to relieve Army garrisons for inland operations. A brown water navy, the "mosquito fleet", consisting of numerous small sailing vessels, barges, and canoes made inland forays, carrying sailors and marines to track the Seminoles in their jungle-like Everglades refuge.

6. Operations against West Indian Pirates. By the early 1820's buccaneers sailing from the Caribbean had attacked nearly 3,000 merchant ships. The U.S. Navy formed the West India Squadron to hunt down the pirates. During the decade of the 1820's U.S. Navy ships sought out the corsair gangs in their own territory and routed them in hand-to-hand combat. By 1830 this menace to free shipping had been dealt a crippling blow.

7. African Slave Trade Patrol. In the middle years of the nineteenth century Americans spoke out against the slave traffic flowing from Africa to the western hemisphere. The U.S. Navy joined England's Royal Navy to establish the African Slave Trade Patrol, which for twenty years hunted and ran down the slavers who plied the Atlantic with their cargoes of human misery.

8. Mexican War (4 bronze stars). This was fought on both coasts of Mexico and in California. The U.S. Navy blockaded enemy ports, and in a major amphibious assault at Veracruz, landed more than 12,000 troops in one day. Successful riverine operations were conducted, and the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps played prominent roles in the conquest of California.

9. Civil War (3 silver stars). The U.S. Navy played a multiple and decisive role in the Civil War. Operations were conducted on the high seas, on rivers, and in bays and

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harbors. The Confederate coast was tightly blockaded, and large scale amphibious assaults were launched against Southern ports and strongholds. River gunboats split the Confederacy along the Mississippi, and Admiral Farragut's victory at New Orleans lost the South her richest city. Historic ship-to-ship actions included Monitor-Virginia (ex-Merrimack) and Kearsarge-Alabama. The U.S. Navy supported and transported Union troops throughout the conflict.

10. Spanish-American War (4 bronze stars). Two decisive and complete naval victories brought this war to a quick end -- Commodore George Dewey at Manila Bay and Admiral Sampson at Santiago, Cuba. In addition, the U.S. Navy blockaded the coast of Cuba and conducted successful amphibious assaults.

11. Philippine Insurrection Campaign (1899 - 1902). The U.S. Navy supported the Army's efforts to quell the insurrection which erupted in the Philippines following the Spanish-American War. Naval ships provided gunfire and the mobility to move troops rapidly to any threatened area. Navy landing parties were used to stop rioting and looting.

12. China Relief Expedition (1900-1901). American citizens and property, as well as all foreigners in China, were endangered by the revolt of the fanatical Boxers. A force of marines and sailors from the USS Newark landed at Taku to protect U.S. lives and property, and on 31 May, 1900, proceeded toward Peking. By August of the same year the revolt was crushed by an international force, including U.S. elements, which rescued the beleaguered foreign legations at Peking.

13. Latin American Campaigns (1906-1920) (1 silver star). To assist in the establishment of economic stability in Latin America, and thus prevent European intervention, the U.S. Navy participated in missions to Nicaragua and other areas during the first two decades of the 20th century. When objectives were achieved the missions were withdrawn.

14. World War I (1 silver star). The U.S. Navy played a key role in the defeat of the U-boat campaign, without which victory would have been impossible. To meet the German submarine threat, the Navy deployed destroyers to Europe, carried out antisubmarine and reconnaissance patrols by naval aircraft, and spearheaded the development, manufacture, and laying of some 60,000 mines in the North Sea Mine Barrage. Equally important, the Naval Overseas Transportation Service safely convoyed over a million American troops and tons of supplies to Europe through submarine infested waters while

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U.S. Battleships joined with the British to ensure containment of the German Navy. And last, in an operation unparalleled in naval annals, large U.S. Navy guns mounted on railroad cars and manned by U.S. Navy gunners effectively bombarded enemy concentrations in France.

15. Second Nicaraguan Campaign (1926-1933). U.S. Naval vessels carried some 2000 Marines to Nicaragua at the request of that government when civil war erupted in 1927. A truce soon followed, and by agreement, U.S. Sailors and Marines went ashore to keep order, supervise elections, and aid in training a local national guard.

16. Yangtze Service (1926-1927, 1930-1932). The Yangtze River Patrol was established to assure a United States naval presence for the protection of American citizens and interests in a turbulent China.

17. China Service (1936-1939 and Post 1945). In 1936 the Sino-Japanese conflict erupted into open hostilities in northern China, quickly spread to Shanghai and threatened the safety of American citizens in the area. U.S. Naval forces performed many tasks in support of our national interests, including the protection and evacuation of all Americans from Shanghai and Nanking. U.S. vessels were subjected to bombing in this period of undeclared war. In a prelude to World War II, the U.S. Gunboat Panay was sunk. At the conclusion of World War II the U.S. Navy returned to control critical waterways and ports, assure implementation of the terms of the surrender, and act as a stabilizing force. Troops were transported and landed, Japanese military forces were repatriated. The struggle between Chinese Nationalists and Communists included confrontations with U.S. Naval forces and minor combat actions.

18. American Defense Service. Awarded for active service during the tense period between the outbreak of war in Europe in 1939 and 7 December 1941. Once again the German U-boat was a deadly threat, and convoy escort and antisubmarine warfare operations by the U.S. Navy became mandatory before the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor plunged America into war.

19. World War-II - American Theater (1 bronze star). German submarines posed a serious threat to vital coastal shipping in American waters. Prowling U-boats took a heavy toll of merchant shipping and tankers, with sinkings frequently taking place within sight of the American shore line. U.S. Naval vessels were also subject to torpedo attack in offshore waters, and the prospect of saboteurs being landed on the coast by submarines was a reality. Convoy escorts, armed guard crews, and vigilant surface and air antisubmarine patrols combined to ultimately defeat the U-boat menace which had brought the war to America's doorstep.

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20. World War II - Pacific Theater (8 silver stars, 3 bronze stars). After the Pearl Harbor attack the Japanese moved quickly to take control in the Philippines and the Southwest Pacific. The few Allied aircraft carriers, cruisers, destroyers, and submarines available in the early months offered heroic resistance against overwhelming odds, and carried out limited offensive operations. The menace of Japanese submarines was combined with enemy carrier and surface ship strength to pose an awesome task for the U.S. Navy in campaigns such as the Solomons and Guadalcanal. In May 1942 the Battle of the Coral Sea was able to check the Japanese drive. The enemy was turned back at the Battle of Midway, one of the most decisive battles in world history. For the balance of the war, bitterly fought campaigns highlighted by vast amphibious operations, supported by powerful carrier task forces pushed through the Pacific Island chains to the Northern Marianas, Iwo Jima, the Philippines and Okinawa. Crippled in the beginning, U.S. Naval strength was able to recover and prevail. U.S. submarines and mines took a devastating toll of Japanese vessels and obliterated her merchant fleet, thus cutting off supply of all critical materials. At last, exhausted and crushed, Japanese authorities surrendered on board the USS Missouri, 2 September 1945. (NOTE: Two Streamers required to accomodate all of the stars - first Streamer with 6 silver stars and the second streamer with 2 silver and 3 bronze stars. The maximum number of stars per streamer is 6).

21. World War II - European-African-Middle Eastern Theater (1 silver star, 4 bronze stars). As in World War I, the deadly menace of the German U-boats in the Atlantic threatened to sever the sea arteries, the life-line of the Allies. Shipping losses were devastating, but the use of convoy escort, armed guard crews, and naval aircraft made it possible for troops and mountains of supplies to move across the submarine-infested waters. Convoys carrying life-sustaining material to Russia were subjected, as well, to the fury of enemy land-based air power. The role of naval forces was never more critical than in momentous amphibious operations--North Africa, Italy, Southern France, and, of course, Normandy. This massed strength of the Allies at last cracked Fortress Europe and brought Italy and Hitler's Third Reich crashing down to total defeat.

22. Korean Service (2 silver stars). The United States, within the framework of the United Nations resolution, responded to the invasion of South Korea by Communist forces from the north. The U.S. Navy tightly blockaded the coast, carrier aircraft struck strategic targets and provided close support. Battleships, cruisers, and destroyers rendered regular and precise gunfire coverage. The Military Sea Transportation Service delivered troops and supplies.

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The minesweepers performed outstandingly. A classical application of naval mobility--the amphibious assault on Inchon--sent the North Korean invaders reeling backward.

23. Armed Forces Expeditionary (2 silver stars, 1 bronze star). The U. S. Navy carried out many tasks in support of the occupation of homelands and territories formally held by the enemies in World War II. Numerous international crises since World War II demanded a constant vigil and naval presence in support of national policy. From the Formosa Strait, to the eastern Mediterranean, to the Cuban missile crisis, the presence of the U. S. Navy has been felt and has deterred the spread of aggression.

24. Vietnam Service (3 silver stars, 2 bronze stars). To prevent the collapse of the Republic of Vietnam and to forestall the Communist Viet Cong and North Vietnamese from overrunning the country, the United States extended military assistance to South Vietnam. The United States Navy's multi-faceted role in the conflict has included shore bombardment, carrier air strikes, tactical gunfire support, amphibious landings, coastal surveillance, extensive riverine ("brown water navy") operations, logistic support, and training the South Vietnamese Navy.

R) 25. Presidential Unit Citation (178 approved as of 30 June 78). Awarded in the name of the President of the United States to any unit of the U. S. Navy for outstanding performance in action. The unit so honored has clearly rendered itself conspicuous by action of a character comparable to that which would merit the award of the Navy Cross to an individual.

R) 26. Navy Unit Commendation (741 approved as of 30 June 78). Awarded by the Secretary of the Navy to any unit of the U. S. Navy which has distinguished itself by outstanding heroism in action against the enemy. A unit receiving this award has performed service of a character which would merit the award of a Silver Star Medal to an individual.

R) 27. Meritorious Unit Commendation (1114 approved as of 30 June 76). Awarded by the Secretary of the Navy to any unit of the U. S. Navy which has distinguished itself, under combat or non-combat conditions, by either valorous or meritorious achievement. A unit receiving this award has performed service or character comparable to that which would merit the award of a Bronze Star Medal, or achievement of like caliber in a noncombat situation to an individual. (NOTE: Additional campaigns approved for Streamer No. 24, Vietnam Service will be incorporated into reference (e). Total number of unit awards approved will be promulgated annually).

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III. ELIGIBILITY

Since entitlement to Battle Streamers is keyed to Campaign Medals and Unit Awards earned, individual units shall make determination of eligibility at the local level. Reference (d) should be consulted for verification of entitlement to unit awards and other streamers. For active ships bearing the same name as their historic predecessors, or other units unable to determine eligibility, a request for determination of entitlement may be forwarded to the Chief of Naval ~~Personnel~~ (Pers-253).

Operations (OP-09B19).

IV. POLICY

a. The use of Battle Streamers is restricted to commands within the operating forces of the Navy, except as noted below. Further, these commands are authorized only those streamers for action in which they or their predecessors bearing the same name or unit designation participated. Subject streamers may be displayed at the discretion of the command. It is suggested that streamers be displayed at or near the quarterdeck in a glass display case.

b. The United States Navy Flag with full set of Battle Streamers is authorized for issue to the following for use at official ceremonies, parades, official Navy displays, public gatherings in which the Navy is an official participant or other occasions when specifically authorized by the Secretary of the Navy:

White House
Senate Armed Forces Committee Room
House Armed Forces Committee Room
Secretary of the Navy
Comptroller of the Navy
Chief of Information
Judge Advocate General
Chief of Legislative Affairs
Chief of Naval Research
Chief of Naval Operations
Chief of Naval Material
Chief, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery
Chief of Naval Personnel
Chief of Chaplains
Secretary of Defense
Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff
Commandant, National War College

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Commandant, Industrial College of the Armed Forces
Commandant, Armed Forces Staff College
District Commandants
Commander Naval Bases
Commander Naval Reserve Training Command
Oceanographer of the Navy
Commander, Naval Security Group Command
Commander, Naval Communication Command
Commander, Naval Recruiting Command
Naval Recruiting Stations
Naval Training Centers
Naval School Commands
Naval Academy
Naval Postgraduate School
NROTC Units
Naval War College
Systems Command Headquarters
Chief of Naval Training
Chief of Naval Air Training
Chief of Naval Air Reserve Training
Chief of Naval Technical Training
Chief of Naval Air Advanced Training
Fleet Commanders in Chief
Fleet Commanders
Force Commanders
Special Force Commanders
Type Commanders
Sea Frontier Commanders
Commander Military Sealift Command
Naval Historical Display Center (Repository for Official
Navy Flag)
Navy Ceremonial Guard
Commander in Chief, Allied Forces, Southern Europe
Headquarters, Unified and Specified Commands

c. Commands not included above having a need for the U.S. Navy Flag with complete set of Battle Streamers for use as set forth herein may be authorized a complete set on a case basis, subject to the approval of the Chief of Naval Operations (OP-09B).

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V. PROCUREMENT.

Flags and Battle Streamers may be procured by submitting a MILSTRIP Requisition (DD Form 1348) direct to the supply source, citing the appropriation chargeable. Streamers in stock points are plain without stars or numerals. The requisition must indicate the appropriate star(s) or numeral(s) to which the requestor is entitled. The requested star(s) or numeral(s) will be embroidered by the supply source upon receipt of the requisition. Federal Stock Numbers assigned to flags, streamers and streamer accessories are as follows:

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>FEDERAL STOCK NUMBER (FSN)</u>
a. <u>Flags:</u>	
United States Navy Flag	8345-684-8733
United States Navy Infantry Battalion Flag	8345-237-4516
b. <u>Battle Streamers:</u>	
1. Revolutionary War	8345-245-3700
2. Quasi-War with France	8345-151-6601
3. Barbary Wars	8345-151-6600
4. War of 1812	8345-245-3701
5. The Indian Wars	8345-245-3697
6. Operations against West Indian Pirates	8345-151-6603
7. African Slave Trade Patrol	8345-151-6599
8. Mexican War	8345-245-3698
9. Civil War	8345-245-3696
10. Spanish-American War	8345-245-3702
11. Philippine Insurrection Campaign (1899-1902)	8345-634-4896
12. China Relief Expedition (1900-1901)	8345-245-3695
13. Latin American Campaigns (1906-1920)	8345-151-6602
14. World War I	8345-245-3703
15. Second Nicaraguan Campaign (1926-1933)	8345-634-4899
16. Yangtze Service (1926-27, 1930-32)	8345-634-5012
17. China Service (1936-39) and Post 1945)	8345-634-5013
18. American Defense Service	8345-634-4894
19. World War II - American Theater	8345-245-3704
20. World War II - Pacific Theater	8345-245-3705
21. World War II - European African - Middle Eastern Theater	8345-245-3706
22. Korean Service	8345-220-6517
23. Armed Forces Expeditionary	8345-782-3035

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24. Vietnam Service	8345-926-6029
25. Presidential Unit Citation	8345-634-5011
26. Navy Unit Commendation	8345-558-2421
27. Meritorious Unit Commendation	8345-935-6662
c. <u>Streamer Accessories:</u>	
Mounting Ring	8345-151-6604
Attachment "S" Hook	4030-272-7744

VI. SUPPLY SOURCE

a. All streamers and mounting rings are obtainable from Defense Personnel Support Center, 2800 S. 20th Street, Philadelphia, Pa. 19101 (ATTN: Directorate of Manufacturing, Code DPSC-MC).

b. Attachment "S" hooks are obtainable from Defense Industrial Supply Center, 700 Robbins Avenue, Philadelphia, Pa. 19111.

VII. COST (Subject to change without advance notice)

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>ESTIMATED UNIT PRICE</u>
United States Navy Flag	\$103.00
United States Navy Infantry Battalion Flag	22.10
Battle Streamer without embroidery	5.00 5.25 (effective 1 JAN 75)
Cost of Embroidery - Average (stars or numerals)	16.00 7.5 (effective 1 JAN 75)
Streamer Mounting Ring	19.00
Streamer attachment "S" hook	.05

VIII. POSITION OF STREAMERS ON MOUNTING RING

a. Streamers will be attached, in sequence from left to right, on the mounting ring as indicated:

<u>STREAMERS</u>	<u>RING HOLE NUMBER</u>
1, 2, and 3	1
4, 5, and 6	2
7, 8, and 9	3
10, 11, and 12	4
13, 14, and 15	5
16, 17, and 18	6
19 and 20	7
21 and 22	8
23 and 24	9
25, 26, and 27	10